

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00
PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 HA-05 EB-08 AID-05 ACDA-12
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DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/CH:DSANDERS
APPROVED BY ARA/AND/CH:RSSTEVEN
-----015986 220312Z /61
P 212204Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, CI

SUBJECT: BOMB FIN BROUHAHA

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO
ANTICIPATED QUESTIONS. NO QUESTIONS WERE ASKED AT NOON
BRIEFING ON JUNE 20 OR 21.

2. QUOTE

Q: IS THE DEPARTMENT NOW REVIEWING THE MATTER OF THE FIN
ASSEMBLIES FOR DELIVERY TO CHILE?

A: FIRST I WANT TO EMPHASIZE THAT THIS IS A LEGAL
DELIVERY IN FULFILLMENT OF A LEGAL OBLIGATION. IN 1976
CONGRESS DECLINED TO INTERRUPT THE PIPELINE TO CHILE.
WHAT IS INVOLVED HERE IS THE WHOLE MATTER OF THE LEGAL
AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF CURTAILING OUR PIPELINE
OBLIGATIONS, WHICH IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS INVOLVE NOT
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ONLY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT BUT MANY U.S. FIRMS AND WORKERS
AS WELL. IT IS A COMPLEX AND FAR-RANGING ISSUE. NEVER-
THELESS, SINCE THERE IS OBVIOUSLY CONCERN ABOUT THE ISSUE
BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, THE WHOLE
PROBLEM OF PIPELINE SHIPMENTS OF MILITARY MATERIALS TO
COUNTRIES WITH SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS INCLUDING
THIS PARTICULAR CASE IS UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW BY THE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Q: CAN YOU TELL US EXACTLY WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED--
BOMBS OR BOMB PARTS?

A: WE ARE TALKING ABOUT 22,000 POUNDS OF FIN ASSEMBLIES,
THAT IS THE TAIL FINS, FOR 250 POUND BOMBS.

Q: WHAT WAS THE VALUE OF THE SALE?

A: \$8,736.00

Q: WHO IS ACTUALLY SELLING THE FIN ASSEMBLIES-A PRIVATE
COMPANY OR DIRECT SALE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE?

A: THIS PARTICULAR CASE IS A TRANSFER FROM THE U.S.
GOVERNMENT TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE.

Q: IS THIS AN FMS CREDIT OR FMS CASH SALE?

A: IT IS AN FMS CASH SALE.

Q: WHEN DID THE CHILEANS PLACE THE ORDER?

A: THE REQUEST DATES FROM 1974. I'LL TAKE THE QUESTION
OF THE EXACT DATE FOR YOU.
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END QUOTE
VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, BOMBS (ORDNANCE), PRESS CONFERENCES
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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